



**Task Force Meeting No. 29 Synopsis
November 23, 2009**

Task Force Members Present*:

Jackie Adams, Teresa Alvarado, Shiloh Ballard, Michele Beasley, Judy Chirco, Gary Chronert, Brian Darrow, Harvey Darnell, Dave Fadness, Leslee Hamilton, Sam Ho, Nancy Ianni, Lisa Jensen, Frank Jesse, Charles Lauer, Karl Lee, Shirley Lewis, Linda LeZotte, Pierluigi Oliverio, David Pandori, Patricia Sausedo, Erik Schoennauer, Alofa Talivaa, Jim Zito.

Task Force Members Absent:

Pastor Oscar Dace, Pat Dando, Enrique Fernandez, Matt Kamkar, Sam Liccardo, Dick Santos, Judy Stabile, Neil Struthers, Michael Van Every.

City Staff and Other Public Agency Staff Present*

Roma Dawson (D3 Council Office), Peter Hamilton (D9 Council Office), Hans Larsen (DOT), Manuel Pineda (DOT), Mansour Nasser (ESD), Eric Rosenblum (ESD), Joseph Horwedel (PBCE), Laurel Prevetti (PBCE), Susan Walton (PBCE), Akoni Danielsen (PBCE), Michael Brilliot (PBCE), Perihan Ozdemir (PBCE), John Baty (PBCE).

Public Present*:

Eric Carruthers; David Marsland (Sierra Club, Cool Cities San José); John Ristow (VTA), Helen Chapman (SHPNA); Annie Thomas (The Health Trust); James Harold (SVHC BUG); John Fernandez; Welling Hsu (De Anza College); Kerri Hamilton; Carlos Babcock (Silicon Valley Bicycle Coalition); Marc Fontana (De Anza College); Andy Liu (De Anza College); Franziska Church (Fehr & Peers); William Kremer; Marc Morris (TASC); Amie Frisch (Veggielution); Chris Lepe (Transform); Julie Lam (Veggielution); Susan Marsland (D1 Resident, SJSU Student); Dennis Lozano (Veggielution); Chris Franchuck (Sierra Club); Martin Delson; Trixie Johnson (LWV); Andre Rivera (SJSU); Larry Ames; Betty Slater (ABA/TASC); Virginia Holtz; Aimee Reedy (The Health Trust); Roz Dean (Coalition for a Downtown Hospital); Leah Toeniskoetter; John Beall (Guadalupe Coyote Resource Conservation District); Dorsey Moore (Sustainability for All); Pat Colombe.

*As verified by registering attendance on Sign-In Sheets.

1. Welcome

The meeting convened at 6:34 p.m.

2. Review and approval of October 26, 2009 synopsis

The synopsis was approved.

3. Land Use / Transportation Diagram - Concepts

Planning staff gave a brief demonstration of the Google Earth application and introduced the concept of General Plan “theme” maps (land use, growth areas, mobility, neighborhoods, open space network) using Google Earth.

4. City Design Concepts

Michael Brilliot introduced the City Design Concept and Hans Larsen provided a presentation on complete streets, grand boulevards and main streets.

A Task Force member suggested extending the Story Road main street segment to include Keyes and Willow Streets and extending the River Oaks main street from North First Street west to the Guadalupe River. Task Force members questioned the appropriateness of designating Meridian Avenue and Capitol Expressway as grand boulevards, as well as the City's ability to make changes to Capitol Expressway, which is a County facility. Hans Larsen explained that Capitol Expressway, from Highway 101 northward is planned to be relinquished from the County to the City. Task Force members highlighted the importance of engaging the public and establishing priorities for implementing grand boulevards and main streets. Task Force members generally stated support for the concept of Grand Boulevards and Main Streets as a way to connect different parts of the City.

A Task Force member commented that a fiscally strong city can require a particular density to make retail and transit work, and that there should be a standard for comparison (e.g., Toronto). A Task Force member expressed concern that the wording of the Fiscally Strong City paragraph could lead to the fiscalization of land use planning and suggested that this section should be reworded.

5. Goals, Policies and Implementation Actions

The Task Force listed items from the revised Energy, Green Building, Historic Preservation and Archaeology, and Quality Neighborhoods goals, policies and implementation actions for discussion. The Task Force did not identify any items from the Urban Forest, or revised Water Supply goals, policies and implementation actions for discussion.

6. Public Comment

Seventeen members of the public spoke during the public comment period. Comments included support for the concept of complete streets, quality neighborhoods, and the City Concepts. A member of the public concerned with gentrification, suggested taking different cultures into consideration when planning for complete streets and types of businesses located along those streets. Some members of the public expressed specific support for community gardens, urban edge agriculture, and encouraging local food producers. Concern was raised regarding how best to protect and respect historic resources and existing neighborhoods, and how to maintain minimum densities required to support different areas. Suggestions were made to locally grow and require planting of native drought-tolerant landscaping. Members of the Alameda Business Association and Shasta Hanchett Park Neighborhood Association informed the Task Force that grand boulevard planning is two-thirds complete for The Alameda:
(<http://www.sjredevelopment.org/TheAlamedaTransportationImprovements.htm>).

7. Task Force Recommendation (vote on motions as needed)

The Task Force approved, with Task Force amendments, the revised Energy, Green Building, Historic Preservation and Archaeology, and Quality Neighborhoods goals, policies and implementation actions. The Task Force approved the Urban Forest goals, policies and

implementation actions without changes and deferred consideration of the revised Water Supply goals, policies and implementation actions to the December Task Force meeting.

8. Announcements

No announcements.

9. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 9:10 p.m.